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MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1 9 5 6.

Dr. M.P. Nightingale, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Medical Officer of Health,
Town Hall,
LYNTON.
North Devon.

LYNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Lynton Urban District Council.

Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31st. DECEMBER 1956.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	7,628.
Population	2,123.
Number of inhabited houses	586.
Rateable Value	£16,767
Sum represented by a 1d.Rate	£ 69.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male.	Female.	TOTAL.
Live Births.			
Legitimate	11.	9.	20.
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Still-births.			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths.			
Residents	12.	15.	27.
Non-residents	3.	3.	6.

and of those deaths :-

4 had reached the age of 90 and upwards,
9 " " " " " 80 " "
10 " " " " " 70 " "
3 " " " " " 65 " "

Deaths of infants under 1 year.	Male.	Female.	TOTAL.
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Deaths from:-

Malignant neoplasm of Lung Bronchus	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	3
Coronary Disease -Angina	1
Other Heart Diseases	10
Hypertension with Heart Disease	5
Pneumonia	4
Bronchitis	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1
TOTAL	27

Notifiable Diseases.

Measles	99
Tuberculosis	Nil
Poliomyelitis (N.P.)	NIL
Scarlet Fever	NIL
Whooping Cough	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	NIL
Dysentery	NIL
Erysipelas	NIL
Paratyphoid	NIL

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

The Chest Clinic for this area is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Tuberculosis. Treatment for tuberculosis is carried out at the Hawley Sanatorium in the Borough of Barnstaple and Hawkmoor Sanitorium near Bovey Tracey.

Venereal Disease. There were no reports of Venereal Disease. The nearest centre for treatment is at Barnstaple North Devon Infirmary and any cases that occur in this Urban District go direct to Barnstaple.

Ambulance Service.

The responsibility for the provision of an Ambulance Service is maintained by the Devon County Council and the Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided by the St. John Ambulance Association. The Staff consists of one full time and eight volunteer members. The vehicle is garaged at Cross Street, Lynton. The Hospital Car Service is available on application by the Doctor to the Hospital.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The nearest Isolation Hospital for infectious diseases is at The Kingsley Hospital Bideford.

Maternity.

There are two beds for maternity cases at the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital with a fully qualified staff available. At the North Devon Infirmary there is an additional ward available for cases of difficulty.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Care.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are conducted at The Lynton Cottage hospital by each General Practitioner in co-operation with the local Midwife and Hospital Staff.

Hospitals.

The following information has been supplied by the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital -

Admissions.....	121
Outpatients.....	429
Outpatients attendance...	983
Deaths.....	9

Child Welfare.

The Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Jubilee Hall, Burvill Street, and is open on the first and third Wednesday in the month.

Home Helps Scheme.

The Home Nursing Service is carried out by one District Nurse in conjunction with nursing and midwifery duties. In addition, assistance in the home is given by one Home Help.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination and immunisation is carried out by the General Practitioners of the area; also at Welfare Centres and School Clinics.

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are available for Bacteriological examinations of all kinds at The Public Health Laboratory, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter.

Water Supply.

During 1956 the North Devon Water Board started work on the water scheme for the provision of a new intake, raw water reservoir and treatment works at Dean Steep on the West Ilkerton River to provide an entirely new supply for Lynton and Lynmouth at an estimated cost of £62,000 and it is anticipated that these works will be completed and the new plant in operation at the beginning of 1958.

All samples of water taken from the main supply during the year were equivalent to a Class One piped supply.

Sewage Disposal.

The relaying of the sewer on Lynmouth Hill has now been completed and the whole of the system has worked very satisfactorily and not given rise to complaints of flooding.

Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of refuse both from household and trade premises has continued. Weekly collections have been made during Winter months and bi-weekly collections during the holiday period have been maintained. Rodent control at the tip has also been regularly carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator. Larger hotels and restaurants have received additional collections as necessary.

Rodent Control.

Similar arrangements to last year's for rodent control work have been continued in the district and the number of complaints has been reduced slightly.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Food premises in the District :-

Type.	Number.
Bakehouses.....	2
Butcher 's Shops.....	4
Cafes and Restaurants.....	16
Confectioners.....	8
Dairies.....	1
Grocer's Shops.....	8
Greengrocers.....	4
Fishmonger's Shops.....	1
Licensed Premises.....	9
Fish and Chip Shops.....	1

14 Food Premises are registered under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 for the Sale of Ice Cream.

One private Abattoir in Lynton continued to slaughter and dress animals under the supervision and control of the Council's Public Health Inspector.

The following foodstuffs were condemned and disposed of by the Council at their refuse tip :-

Tinned Fruit.....	70 tins.
Tinned Meats.....	13 tins.
Tinned Vegetables.....	39 tins.
Tinned Fish.....	20 tins.
Other tinned foods.....	5 tins.
Cheese.....	26¼ lbs.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

29 visits were made to food premises in Lynton and Lynmouth and recommendations have been made in the majority of cases to bring up to a standard required by the above regulations.

Milk Supply.

One dealers licence to authorise the special designation "pasteurized" was issued. Three producer retailers continued to supply undesignated milk in the district.

Petroleum.

The number of licensed premises in the year was 8.

Housing.

(Article 31 of the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932).

(a) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation....Nil.

(b) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority..... 2.

(c) Number of representations made to local authority with a view to (1) the service of notices requiring the execution of works or (2) the making of demolition or closing orders.....Nil.

(d) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works.....Nil.

(e) Number of demolition orders made.....Nil.

(f) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (2) of section 19 of the Housing Act 1930.....Nil.

(g) Number of houses demolished.....Nil.

Factories.

During the year 12 inspections of the 5 factories were made mainly in connection with smoke nuisances and Sanitary conveniences.

Staff.

Mr. Gibbs the Council's Public Health Officer retired from the employment of the Lynton Urban District Council after 36 years service. Mr. T.J.Loveless took up duties on the 1st. August, in succession to Mr. Gibbs.

May I also thank all Members and Officers of the Council for their help and consideration during the year.

I have the honour to be,
Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

M. P. NIGHTINGALE

Medical Officer of Health.

15 JUL 1958